

whom the record pertains), if, upon disclosure, notification of such is sent to the last known address of the individual to whom the record pertains;

(9) To either House of Congress, or to any committee or subcommittee thereof, on a matter within its jurisdiction;

(10) To the Comptroller General, or any of his authorized representatives, in the course of the performance of the duties of the General Accounting Office; or

(11) Pursuant to the order of a court of competent jurisdiction.

(c) When a record is disclosed under compulsory legal process and such process becomes a matter of public record, the system manager will make reasonable efforts to notify the individual to whom the record pertains. A notice will be sent to the individual's last known address noted in the Commission's files.

(d) The appropriate system manager shall notify all prior recipients of records, disclosure to whom an accounting was made pursuant to §3b.226, of any amendments made to the records, including corrections, amendments and notations of dispute made pursuant to §§3b.224(c)(1) and 3b.224(e)(1) and (2)(v), within ten days of receipt of the corrected information or notation of dispute (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal public holidays), except under unusual circumstances [see circumstances described in §3b.220(d)].

(e) The content of the records disclosed under this section shall be maintained pursuant to the standards established in §3b.201(c).

#### **§ 3b.226 Accounting of disclosures.**

(a) The appropriate system manager specified for each system of records will keep an accurate written account of all disclosures of records made to any person or to any other agency with the written consent or at the written request of the individual to whom the record pertains and pursuant to §3b.225(b)(3) through (11). The account will include the following information:

(1) The date, nature, and purpose of each disclosure;

(2) The name and address of the person or agency to whom the disclosure is made; and

(3) A reference to the justification or basis upon which the release was made, including reference to any written document required as when records are released for statistical or law enforcement purposes pursuant to §3b.225(b)(5) and (7).

(b) Each system manager will retain the accounting made under paragraph (a) of this section for at least five years from the date of disclosure for which the accounting is made, or the life of the record, whichever is longer.

(c) Except for disclosures made for law enforcement purposes pursuant to §3b.225(b)(7), and unless the system of records has been exempted from this provision pursuant to subpart D of this part, each system manager will make the accounting made under paragraph (a) of this section available to the individual named in the record at his written request.

(d) The accounting of disclosures is not a system of records under the definition in §3b.2(e) and no accounting will be maintained for disclosure of the accounting of disclosures.

#### **§ 3b.227 Mailing lists.**

An individual's name and address maintained by the Commission will not be sold or rented for commercial or other solicitation purposes not related to the purposes for which the information was collected, unless such sale or rental is specifically authorized by law. This provision shall not be construed to require the withholding of names or addresses otherwise permitted to be made public, as pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552, as amended.

### **Subpart D—Rules for Exemptions**

#### **§ 3b.250 Specific exemptions.**

Any system of records maintained by the Commission may be exempt from certain provisions of the Privacy Act of 1974, and the appropriate sections of this part promulgated pursuant thereto, if the following requirements are met:

(a) The system of records falls within one or more of the following categories:

(1) Records subject to the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(1) as classified material;

(2) Investigatory material compiled for law enforcement purposes [except to the extent that the system is more broadly exempt under 5 U.S.C. 552a(j)(2) covering records maintained by an agency whose principal function pertains to the enforcement of criminal laws] provided, however, that is such record is used as a basis for denying an individual any right, privilege, or benefit to which the individual would be entitled in the absence of that record, the individual must be granted access to that record except to the extent that access would reveal the identity of a confidential source who furnished the information to the Government under an express promise that his identity would be held in confidence, or, prior to September 27, 1975, under an implied promise that his identity would be held in confidence;

(3) Records maintained to provide protective services to the President of the United States or other individuals pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 3056;

(4) Records required by statute to be maintained and used solely as statistical records;

(5) Investigatory material compiled solely for determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for Federal civilian employment, military service, Federal contracts, or access to classified information, but only to the extent that disclosure of such material would reveal the identity of a source who furnished information to the Government under an express promise that his identity would be held in confidence, or, prior to September 27, 1975, under an implied promise that his identity would be held in confidence;

(6) Testing or examination material used solely to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in the Federal service the disclosure of which would compromise the objectivity or fairness of the testing or examination process; or

(7) Material used to evaluate potential for promotion in the armed services, but only to the extent that the disclosure of such material would reveal the identity of a source who furnished the information to the Govern-

ment under an express promise that his identity would be held in confidence, or, prior to September 27, 1975, under an implied promise that his identity would be held in confidence;

(b) Publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER is made in accordance with the requirements (including general public notice) of the Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. 553, to include, at a minimum:

(1) The name of the system of records;

(2) The specific provision or provisions of the Privacy Act of 1974, and the appropriate sections of this part promulgated pursuant thereto, from which the system is to be exempted; and

(3) The reasons for the exemption; and

(c) The system of records is exempted from one or more of the following provisions of the Privacy Act and the appropriate sections of this part promulgated pursuant thereto:

(1) 5 U.S.C. 552a(c)(3); 18 CFR 3b.226(c)—Making the accounting of disclosures available to the individual named in the record at his request;

(2) 5 U.S.C. 552a(d); 18 CFR 3b.221, 3b.224—Granting an individual the right of access to his records and permitting him to request amendment of such;

(3) 5 U.S.C. 552a(e)(1); 18 CFR 3b.201(a)—Requiring maintenance of relevant and necessary information in a system of records as required by statute or Executive order of the President;

(4) 5 U.S.C. 552a(e)(4)(G); 18 CFR 3b.3(a)(8)—Requiring a description of procedures for determining if a system contains a record on an individual in the public notice of the system of records;

(5) 5 U.S.C. 552a(e)(4)(H); 18 CFR 3b.3(a)(9)—Requiring a description of procedures for gaining access to and contesting the contents of a record in the public notice of the system of records;

(6) 5 U.S.C. 552a(e)(4)(I); 18 CFR 3b.3(a)(10)—Requiring a description of the categories of the sources of records in the public notice of the system of records; and

(7) 5 U.S.C. 552a(f); 18 CFR 3b.220–3b.224—Requiring agency rules for determining if an individual is the subject of a record, for handling requests for access, for granting requests for access, for amending records, and for fees.

### PART 3c—STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

Sec.

3c.1 Cross-reference to employee ethical conduct standards and financial disclosure regulations.

3c.2 Nonpublic information.

3c.3 Reporting fraud, waste, abuse, and corruption and cooperation with official inquiries.

AUTHORITY: 15 U.S.C. 717g; 16 U.S.C. 825(b); 42 U.S.C. 7171, 7172.

SOURCE: Order 589, 61 FR 43415, Aug. 23, 1996, unless otherwise noted.

#### **§3c.1 Cross-reference to employee ethical conduct standards and financial disclosure regulations.**

Employees of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) are subject to the executive branch-wide financial disclosure regulations at 5 CFR part 2634, the Standards of Ethical Conduct for Employees of the Executive Branch at 5 CFR part 2635, the Commission regulations at 5 CFR part 3401 which supplement the Standards of Ethical Conduct, and the executive branch-wide employee responsibilities and conduct regulation at 5 CFR part 735.

#### **§3c.2 Nonpublic information.**

(a) Section 301(b) (16 U.S.C. 825(b)) of the Federal Power Act and section 8(b) (15 U.S.C. 717g) of the Natural Gas Act prohibit any employee, in the absence of Commission or court direction, from

divulging any fact or information which may come to his or her knowledge during the course of examination of books or other accounts.

(b) The nature and time of any proposed action by the Commission are confidential and shall not be divulged to anyone outside the Commission. The Secretary of the Commission has the exclusive responsibility and authority for authorizing the initial public release of information concerning Commission proceedings.

#### **§3c.3 Reporting fraud, waste, abuse, and corruption and cooperation with official inquiries.**

(a) Employees shall, in fulfilling the obligation of 5 CFR 2635.101(b)(11), report fraud, waste, abuse, and corruption in Commission programs, including on the part of Commission employees, contractors, subcontractors, grantees, or other recipients of Commission financial assistance, to the Office of Inspector General or other appropriate Federal authority.

(b) All alleged violations of the ethical restrictions described in §3c.1 that are reported in accordance with paragraph (a) of this section to an appropriate authority within the Commission shall in turn be referred by that authority to the Designated Agency Ethics Official or his or her designee, or the Inspector General.

(c) Employees shall cooperate with official inquiries by the Inspector General; they shall respond to questions truthfully under oath when required, whether orally or in writing, and must provide documents and other materials concerning matters of official interest. An employee is not required to respond to such official inquiries if answers or testimony may subject the employee to criminal prosecution.